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ABSTRACT

This critique of higher education makes the case that the decline of America's colleges and universities is directly related to the trend toward research and away from teaching. The book claims that: (1) the "publish or perish" dictum generates useless research and articles, while leading professors away from their students in the pursuit of tenure; (2) academic fundamentalism, the refusal of professors to acknowledge ideas that do not fit their own agenda, is on the rise; (3) the misapplication of the scientific method to such fields as literature and history is both limiting and destructive; and (4) universities are becoming increasingly dependent on government and big business as these entities award more research grants. The 18 chapters have titles including the following: "The Emergence of the University," "The State Universities," "Growing Pains," "The Education of Women," "The War between Science and Religion," "Ph.D. and Tenure," "Higher Education in the Twentieth Century," "The Revolt of the Youth," "Publish or Perish," "The Social Nonsciences," "The Inhuman Humanities," "Women's Studies," and "Reviving the Spirit." (DB)

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